12634 Village Health Guides (9013 female and 3621 male) are in position in Rajasthan.

(b) No complaints have been received in regard to the non-implementation of the scheme.

(c) Does not arise.

**Creation of Industrial Disaster Relief Fund**

1491. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Industrial Disaster Relief Fund has been created;

(b) if so, what are the main aspects;

(c) whether such a relief fund would also cover radiation hazard; and

(d) if not, what is the present disaster relief for radiation hazard to the public others than the employees in the Atomic power plants and other fuel enrichment plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (d) In so far as nuclear plants are concerned, all the precautions are taken to ensure that they pose no hazards to the personnel within the plant or the members of the public. In the unlikely event of an accident, Government will extend due relief depending on the extent of damage or injury suffered.

**Development of Rural People**

1492. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that to develop the rural people and to improve their life style, the regional imbalances should be removed;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that lack of roads and bridges, railway lines and telecommunication facilities are important causes for such imbalances; and

(c) whether the Planning Commission propose to give special emphasis on the development of these facilities in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A major thrust of planned growth in the country has been to reduce the regional disparities. Almost all the points of the 20 Point Programme are reoriented towards rural areas. The exercises on the Approach Paper in the Eighth Plan are underway. It would bring out the specific objectives/strategies including those of regional imbalances.

**Irrigation Scheme of Tamil Nadu**

1493. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the irrigation schemes submitted by Tamil Nadu costing more than Rs. 50 lakhs pending for clearance from the Central Government; and

(b) what are the reasons for the delay in clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Clarification has been sought regarding the economic

viability in respect of Modernisation of Cauvery Delta Phase-I and in respect of Anaimaduvu Reservoir Scheme, replies to the Central Water Commission's comments have been recently received in June, 1988 and September, 1988. As 75 per cent work of Parambikulam Aliyar Ayacut extension and modernisation of Periyar Vaigai Projects has been completed the question of their appraisal does not arise.

**Ban on smoking**

1494. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to prohibit smoking in offices, public places and transports inclusive of Railways and the educational institutions, in view of the proof that cancer can be caused in the environment of smokers;

(b) whether Government have taken measures to control the percentage of expenditure on advertisements by cigarette manufacturers; and

(c) whether Government propose to take immediate measures to ban cigarette advertisements in sports fields and tournaments and in the promotion of sports activities or sponsoring them by cigarette manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) With a view to reducing the health hazards of smoking all the State/U.T. Governments and Central Ministries/Departments have been advised to enforce the existing legislation/instructions concerning non-smoking in different places of entertainment and public transport and to extend these to other public places.

(b) and (c) Keeping in view of the increasing incidence of tobacco related diseases it has been proposed to introduce a comprehensive plan of action against use of all tobacco products in consultation with the State Governments. The proposed anti-tobacco measures *inter-alia* include prohibition of advertisement on all tobacco products.

**Shift in production of energy from nuclear base to gas base**

1495. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider a shift in the energy production from nuclear base to gas base power generation in view of the abundent finds of gas in Krishna-Godavari basin and other areas, and also in view of the protests from the environmentalists regarding the possible ill-effects arising due to radiation and other problems of nuclear energy;

(b) whether there are any proposals for tapping energy from natural gas; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c) The power generated from the Nuclear Power Plants today is about 3 per cent of the total electricity generated in the country. The long term plan of the Department of Atomic Energy will raise this share to about 10 per cent by the year 2000. For planning of energy in a large country like India, a proper mix of hydro, thermal and